

**Alexandria Campus Forum Council**  
**Minutes**  
**October 19, 2018**

**Members Present: Azza Ahmed, Ivy Beringer, Said El Hamdani, Janet Giannotti (Chair), Twyla Jones, Jack Lechelt, Siem Goitom Sium, Mike Waguespack**

**I. Minutes of the September meeting were approved.**

**II. Student members were welcomed.**

Said El Hamdani is with Phi Theta Kappa, and Siem Goitom Sium is with Student Government.

**III. Chair Janet Giannotti gave updates on issues that came up at the September meeting.**

A. She reported that she emailed the six Associate Deans to ask for nominations for an adjunct TF to join the Council. She did not receive a reply.

B. She gave an update from Kathy Clement who clarified that issues with facilities can be directed to her, but parking and parking-related signage issues should be directed to Parking Services.

C. She reported that she met with Dr. Haggray about the Helping Hands program, including to clarify procedures for requesting funds and to discuss some strategies for increasing funds in the account. The account balance is currently quite low: less than \$1700. A general call to the Campus to donate to the fund is on hold while we confirm how to communicate effectively with the NOVA Foundation.

D. She reported that she has been in touch with Art Lin regarding updating the Council's information that appears on the NOVA website. In addition, she will ask Marcus Henderson to send an email to the Campus with information on the Council. Pat Gordon had previously volunteered to be the point of contact for issues, so her name and email will be in the communication.

E. She followed up on the issue of students being dropped multiple times due to Financial Aid issues. She communicated with Vanessa Diaz, chair of the Instructional and Student Services Committee, on the issue. Vanessa reported that this issue had already come up in her committee.

**IV. Jack Lechelt gave a brief report from the Personnel Services Committee.**

A. The committee is discussing support for faculty who are engaged in assessment activities. The PSC is working with the Office of Academic Assessment on the issue.

B. The committee is working with Charlotte Calobrisi from HR regarding the issue of conflicting messages that Classified Staff receive regarding expectations that they will work from home when the College closes for a snow day.

C. Charlie Errico will attend the next PSC meeting to address questions about Summer Session pay and why we received a letter on that topic.

D. The PSC is discussing the role of faculty in advising, especially their presence in Advising Centers.

**V. Janet Giannotti gave a brief summary of issues discussed at the October 18 College Senate meeting.**

A. An ad-hoc committee will be formed to propose refinements to the Classified Staff Rewards and Recognition and A/P Faculty Rewards and Recognition programs, which were new in the spring of 2018.

B. The Teaching Faculty Rewards and Recognition program is also overdue for revision. A second ad-hoc committee will be formed for that process.

C. There is a need for a representative to the Faculty Senate of Virginia, and for someone to attend Higher Ed Advocacy Day in January

D. Two new policies were circulated in draft form: One on Energy Conservation and a second on the NOVA ID Card. The Senate will be asking for input that will be forward to the Policy Working Group.

E. The President's Faculty Advisory Council, which was started last year, will continue. Jill Caporale, TF from AN, was elected chair of the group.

**VI. New business items were taken from the floor and discussed.**

A. Said Hamdani reported that students are very concerned with both the cost and the lack of options of the food offered by the Euro Café, as well as the lack of healthy options in vending machines. Many students choose to live close to campus and do not own cars. Therefore, they depend on being able to find affordable and nutritious options on campus.

→A motion was made, seconded and approved: *The Alexandria Campus Forum Council would like to communicate our displeasure with both the cost and the lack of variety of food options on campus to the Campus Director of Operations and the College Senate. We would like to hear what can be done now and at the time Euro Café's contract is due for renewal.*

B. Azza Ahmed reported that since the Library is closed on Saturdays and the Open Computer Center does not open until 9:00, students whose Saturday classes start at 8:30 or 9:00 are often unable to print papers that are due, and they come into the LASS Division wondering how to print. Mike Waguespack offered to investigate to see if the OCC could open earlier.

C. Various issues that make it difficult for student groups were discussed. First, students are eager to learn how to advertise events on the hallway monitors. Then, students noted that policies that may be college-based or state-wide tend to inhibit student clubs and groups. These include having to request approval to print with substantial lead time, and having to have a faculty advisor present at any event. The Council agreed to look into these issues, as they may tend to make students want to give up and not pursue leadership in organizations.

**VII. The meeting was adjourned at 2:15.**